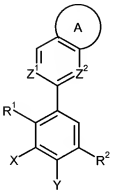
Amendments to the claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

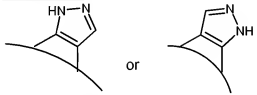
1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



(I)

wherein

A is a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring ~~containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen which heteroaryl ring is~~ selected from



optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, $-(CH_2)_k$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, $-(CH_2)_kOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_kCO_2R^3$, $-(CH_2)_kNR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kCONR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kNHCOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_kSO_2NR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kNHSO_2R^3$, $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$, ~~a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclyl ring containing nitrogen optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl or $-(CH_2)_kCO_2R^3$, and a 5-membered heteroaryl ring optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl~~; or

A is ~~a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen which heteroaryl ring is~~ substituted by $-BR^6$~~, and~~ ; or

A is ~~the heteroaryl ring is~~ optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from $-OR^7$, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -CN, $-CO_2R^7$ and C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy; or

A is ~~a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen which heteroaryl ring is~~ substituted by -$(CH_2)_n$heterocyclyl wherein the heterocyclyl is a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen, sulfur and nitrogen optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_p$phenyl, -OR^7, -$(CH_2)_pCO_2R^7$, -NR^7R^8 and -$CONR^7R^8$, and

the A heteroaryl ring is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from -OR^7, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -CN, -CO_2R^7 and C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy; or

A is ~~a fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen which heteroaryl ring is~~ substituted by -$(CH_2)_q$aryl or -$(CH_2)_q$heteroaryl wherein the aryl or heteroaryl is optionally substituted by one or more substituents independently selected from oxo, C_{1-6}alkyl, halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, -OR^9, -$(CH_2)_rCO_2R^{10}$, -NR^9R^{10}, -$(CH_2)_rCONR^9R^{10}$, -NHCOR^9, -$SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, -$NHSO_2R^9$ and -$S(O)_sR^9$, and

the heteroaryl ring is optionally further substituted by one substituent selected from -OR^7, halogen, trifluoromethyl, -CN, -CO_2R^7 and C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by hydroxy;

R^1 is selected from methyl and chloro;

R^2 is selected from -NH-CO-R^{11} and -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_t$-R^{12};

R^3 is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to two OH groups, -$(CH_2)_k$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$(CH_2)_k$phenyl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14} and -$(CH_2)_k$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14},

R^4 is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^3 and R^4, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{15};

R^5 is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to three halogen atoms, C_{2-6}alkenyl optionally substituted by phenyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, heteroaryl optionally substituted by up to three R^{13} and/or R^{14} groups, and phenyl optionally substituted by R^{13} and/or R^{14};

R^6 is a C_{3-6}alkyl group substituted by at least two substituents independently selected from -OR^{16}, -$NR^{16}R^{17}$, -CO_2R^{16}, -$CONR^{16}R^{17}$, -NHCOR^{16} and -$NHSO_2R^{16}$;

R^7 and R^8 are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^9 is selected from hydrogen, -$(CH_2)_u$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$(CH_2)_u$heterocyclyl, -$(CH_2)_u$aryl, and C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from -OR^{18} and -$NR^{18}R^{19}$,

R^{10} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^9 and R^{10}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{15};

R^{11} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_t$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, -$(CH_2)_v$heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{20} and/or R^{21}, and -$(CH_2)_v$phenyl optionally substituted by R^{20} and/or R^{21};

R^{12} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONHR^{22}$, phenyl optionally substituted by R^{20} and/or R^{21}, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by R^{20} and/or R^{21};

R^{13} and R^{14} are each independently selected from halogen, cyano, trifluoromethyl, nitro, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$CONR^{22}R^{23}$, -COR^{24}, -CO_2R^{24}, and heteroaryl, or

R^{13} and R^{14} are linked to form a fused 5-membered heterocyclyl ring containing one heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{15}, or a fused heteroaryl ring;

R^{15} is selected from hydrogen and methyl;

R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18} and R^{19} are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{20} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, -$(CH_2)_t$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, -$CONR^{22}R^{23}$, -$NHCOR^{23}$, halogen, -CN, -$(CH_2)_wNR^{25}R^{26}$, trifluoromethyl, phenyl optionally substituted by one or more R^{21} groups, and heteroaryl optionally substituted by one or more R^{21} groups;

R^{21} is selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halogen, trifluoromethyl, and -$(CH_2)_wNR^{25}R^{26}$;

R^{22} and R^{23} are each independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{22} and R^{23}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{15}, wherein the ring may be substituted by up to two C_{1-6}alkyl groups;

R^{24} is C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^{25} is selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl and -$(CH_2)_t$-C_{3-7}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl,

R^{26} is selected from hydrogen and C_{1-6}alkyl, or

R^{25} and R^{26}, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are bound, form a 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring optionally containing one additional heteroatom selected from oxygen, sulfur and N-R^{15};

B is selected from a bond, oxygen, NH and $S(O)_x$;

X and Y are each independently selected from hydrogen, methyl and halogen;

Z^1 is N or N=O and Z^2 is CH,

Z^1 is CH and Z^2 is N or N=O, or Z^1 and Z^2 are each independently selected from N or N=O;

k, m and w are each independently selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3;

n, q, r, s, t and x are each independently selected from 0, 1 and 2; and

u and v are each independently selected from 0 and 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable [[derivative]] salt thereof.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, halogen, $-(CH_2)_kNR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kNHCOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_kNHSO_2R^3$ and $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$, or A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_q$aryl wherein the aryl is optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, halogen, cyano, $-OR^9$ and $-(CH_2)_rCO_2R^{10}$.

4. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$ or $-(CH_2)_q$aryl wherein the aryl is substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl or halogen.

5. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^1 is methyl.

6. (previously presented) A compound according to claim wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_t$-R^{12}.

7. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein X is hydrogen or fluorine.

8. (original) A compound according to claim 1 substantially as hereinbefore defined with reference to any one of Examples 1 to 58, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

9. (Currently amended) A compound selected from:

N-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-3-{1-[(1-methylethyl)sulfonyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl}benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-5-[1-(2-thienylsulfonyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl]benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(2-thienylsulfonyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl]benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(cyclopropylsulfonyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl]-5-fluoro-4-methylbenzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-4-methyl-5-[1-(3-methylphenyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl]benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-5-(1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl)benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-[1-(2-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*c*]pyridin-5-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-3-fluoro-5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-6-yl]-4-methylbenzamide;

3-fluoro-5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-6-yl]-4-methyl-*N*-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)benzamide;

3-fluoro-5-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[4,3-*c*]pyridin-6-yl]-4-methyl-*N*-(1-methyl-1*H*-pyrazol-5-yl)benzamide;

3-[3-(acetylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-6-yl]-*N*-cyclopropyl-4-methylbenzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-3-{3-[(2-methylpropanoyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-6-yl}benzamide;

N-cyclopropyl-4-methyl-3-[3-(propanoylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-6-yl]benzamide; and

N-(6-{5-[(cyclopropylamino)carbonyl]-2-methylphenyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-3-yl)-2-thiophenecarboxamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~derivative~~ salt thereof.

10. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~derivative~~ salt thereof, in association with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, diluents and/or carriers.

11. (cancelled)

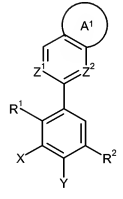
12. (Currently amended) A compound ~~as claimed in~~ according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, for use in the treatment or prophylaxis of a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase.

13.(withdrawn) A method for treating a condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a compound as claimed in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.

14. (cancelled)

15.(Withdrawn/Currently amended/) A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) according to ~~as claimed in~~ claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable ~~derivative~~ salt thereof, which comprises

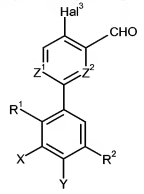
(a) reacting a compound of formula (II)



(II)

in which R^1, R^2, X, Y, Z^1 and Z^2 are as defined in claim 1 and A^1 is an unsubstituted fused 5-membered heteroaryl ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from oxygen and nitrogen with a halide derivative,
in the presence of a base;

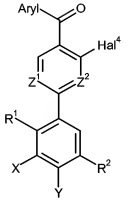
(b) when A is a fused pyrazolyl, reacting a compound of formula (XI)



(XI)

in which R^1, R^2, X, Y, Z^1 and Z^2 are as hereinbefore defined and Hal^3 is halogen, in particular chlorine, with a hydrazine derivative;

(c) when A is a fused pyrazolyl substituted by aryl, reacting a compound of formula (XII)



(XII)

in which R^1, R^2, X, Y, Z^1 and Z^2 are as hereinbefore defined and Hal^4 is halogen, in particular chlorine, with a hydrazine derivative; or

(d) final stage modification of one compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 to give another compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1.

16. (Currently amended) A compound according to claim [[2]] 1 wherein A is substituted by up to two substituents independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, halogen, $-(CH_2)_kNR^3R^4$, $-(CH_2)_kNHCOR^3$, $-(CH_2)_kNHSO_2R^3$ and $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$, or A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_q$aryl wherein the aryl is optionally substituted by one or

two substituents independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, halogen, cyano, $-OR^9$ and $-(CH_2)_rCO_2R^{10}$.

17. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 16 wherein A is substituted by $-(CH_2)_kSO_2(CH_2)_mR^5$ or $-(CH_2)_q$aryl wherein the aryl is substituted by C_{1-6}alkyl or halogen.

18. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 16 wherein R^1 is methyl.

19. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 16 wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_t$-R^{12}.

20. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 16 wherein X is hydrogen or fluorine.

21. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein Z^1 is N or N=O and Z^2 is CH.

22. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein Z^1 is CH and Z^2 is N or N=O.

23. (New) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_t$-R^{12}.

24. (New) A compound according to claim 21 wherein R^2 is -CO-NH-$(CH_2)_t$-R^{12}.

25. (new) The compound according to claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof, wherein the condition or disease state mediated by p38 kinase activity or mediated by cytokines produced by the activity of p38 kinase is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.